

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 01822 031755Z

61

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 CEQ-02 COA-02 COME-00 EB-11 EPA-04 IO-14

NSF-04 NSC-07 SCI-06 SS-20 FEA-02 ACDA-19 AEC-11

AGR-20 DOTE-00 CG-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00 OMB-01

DRC-01 /217 W

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4982

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 3846

USNMR SHAPE

USDOCOSOUTH

USLOSACLANT

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1822

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, PBOR

SUBJECT: LAW-OF-THE-SEA: NATO CONSULTATIONS

REF: STATE 65386

SUMMARY: MAJORITY OF POLADS IN PARIL 2 MEETING INDICATED SUPPORT FOR EARLY LOS CONSULTATIONS, BUT SEVERAL ALLIES ARE HESITATING. ALTHOUGH MOST DELS FLEXIBLE ON DATE, MAY 13 PRESENTS PROBLEMS FOR TWO AND MAY 10 WOULD BE BETTER FOR ALL. FRG IDEA TO AMPLIFY AGENDA IS CAUSING PROBLEMS, AND WE WILL STRIVE TO KEEP AGENDA BRIEF AND GENERAL. ACTION REQUESTED: PROMPT ADVICE ON WHETHER MAY 10 CONSULTATIONS ACCEPTABLE TO AMBASSADOR STEVENSON AND ADVISERS, AND, IF NOT, ALTERNATIVE DATES. END SUMMARY
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PAGE 02 NATO 01822 031755Z

1. CHAIRMAN ASKED POLADS IF U.S. PROPOSAL FOR LOS CONSULTATIONS AGREEABLE TO THEIR CAPTITALS, AND WHETHETHER MAY 13 DATE AND U.S. AGENDA COULD BE ACCEPTED BY ALL. ITALY, TURKEY, NETHERLANDS, ICELAND BELGIUM, FRG AND DENMARK FAVORED CONSULTATIONS. FRG AND NETHERLANDS

ADDED THAT CHIEFS OF THEIR DELEGATIONS FOR CARACAS MEETING WOULD PROBABLY ATTEND. PORTUGAL LACKED INSTRUCTIONS AND WISHED TO RESERVE. (ALTHOUGH UK REP SAID NOTHING IN MEETING, UK DEL INFORMED US LATER LONDON IS NOT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT MEETING BECAUSE OF POSSIBLE DIVISIVE EFFECTS IN ALLIANCE OF CERTAIN LOS ISSUES.)

2. DATE FOR CONSULTATIONS: ASSUMING ALL DELS EVENTUALLY APPROVE CONSULTATIONS IN PRINCIPLE, MANY INDICATED THEY COULD ACCEPT VIRTUALLY

ANY DATE IN MAY. IN VIEW OF UNAVAILABILITY OF ICELANDIC AND CANADIAN EXPERTS AND OTHER POSSIBLE CONFLICTS ON MAY 13, HOWEVER, MANY

PERMREPS LATER IN DAY AGREED INFORMALLY THAT MAY 10 WOULD BE PREFERABLE.

3. AGENDA: CHAIRMAN REPORTED VIEW OF ASYG HUMPHREYS THAT CONSULTATIONS SHOULD ABOVE ALL DEAL WITH SECURITY ISSUES, SUCH AS STRAITS AND NAVIGATION OVER SHELF IN AREAS BEYOND TERRITORIAL WATERS. ITALIAN REP WANTED SPECIFIC ITEM ON STRATIS, UNDER WHICH ROME WANTS TO DISCUSS

STRATIS OF MESSINA. FRG REP STATED THAT BONN WANTS MORE DETAILED AGENDA SO EXPERTS CAN PREPARE FOR MEETING. (HAAS (I.S.), WHO WILL CHAIR EXPERTS MEETING, INDICATED PRIVATELY THAT U.S. PROPOSED AGENDA WOULD PROBABLY SUFFICE FOR NAC, BUT HE TOO BELIEVED THAT EXPERTS DISCUSSION WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO ORGANIZE WITHOUT SOMEWHAT FULLER AGENDA.

4. IN REPLY TO FRG POINTS DURING MEETING, U.S. REP POINTED OUT PER REFTEL THAT WE WOULD EXPECT TO COVER ALL NAVIGATION ISSUES, AND THAT EXPERTS WOULD NOT NEED DETAILED AGENDA TO KNOW WHAT THE ISSUES ARE. MOREOVER, WE WERE INFORMED AFTER MEETING THAT GREEK REP WOULD "VETO" ANY AGENDA ITEMS ON STRAITS AND CONTINENTAL SHELF. IN VIEW OF THIS AND POSSIBLY OTHER ALLIED SENSITIVITIES (ICELAND, ETC.), WE BELIEVE DETAILED AGENDA FOR EXPERTS MIGHT BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. WE INTEND TO ASK FRG AND ITALIAN REPS TO REFLECT ON THESE POINTS BEFORE PRESSING FURTHER FOR DETAILED AGENDA. TO CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NATO 01822 031755Z

SOLVE CHAIRMAN'S PROBLEM OF STRUCTURING DISCUSSION, WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT U.S. TAKE LEAD IN EXPERTS DISCUSSION AND PROVIDE CHAIRMAN WITH OUTLINE OF POINTS U.S. REPS WILL COVER. CHAIRMAN COULD THEN FOLLOW THIS OUTLINE IN ENSURING DISCUSSION.

5. MORE DETAILED AGENDAS FOR EXPERTS MEETINGS ARE CUSTOMARY, HOWEVER, AND WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO CONVINCE OTHERS TO ABANDON IDEA IN THIS CASE. ISSUE WILL AGAIN BE DISCUSSED IN POLADS ON APRIL 9. RUMSFELD

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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